

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 08309 280829Z

14

ACTION EA-09

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TAGA: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: ROK REACTION TO UNITED NATIONS DAY OBSERVANCE

1. LOCAL EDITORIAL REACTION TO 1975 OBSERVANCE OF ANNIVERSARY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITED NATIONS WAS REMARKABLY CONSISTENT IN ALL PAPERS, MILDLY CRITICAL OF THE "HANGING NATURE OF UN", BUT OTHERWISE RATHER BLAND.

2. MAJORITY OF LOCAL NEWSPAPERS COMMENTED ON PRESENT UNITED NATIONS "ORIENTATION". LIKE SEOUL SINMUN, PRESS GAVE FULL CREDIT TO PAST VITAL UN SUPPORT OF KOREA, BUT NEARLY ALL NOTED THAT ORGANIZATION HAD GROWN FROM 51 MEMBER NATIONS TO 142 AND MANY OF RELATIVE NEWCOMERS WERE PRO-LEFTIST, NEUTRAL, ANTI-WESTERN OR ANTI-UNITED STATES. UN IS DYNAMIC, CHANGING ORGANIZATION BUT CHANGE IS NOT PERCEIVED AS BENEFICIAL TO ROK. KOREA CAN NO LONGER RELY ON UN FOR ITS NATIONAL SECURITY WAS COMMENT IN SEVERAL PAPERS.

3. NEWSPAPERS SUCH AS KYONGHYANG SINMUN ALSO ADDED
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CRITICISM OF UN HANDLING OF MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, NOTICE

THAT KOREA MUST NOW BECOME SELF-RELIANT, A CONSTANT ROKG
LINE THESE DAYS. CHOSUN ILBO NOTED THAT NATION DOES NOT
INTEND TO PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT UN EVENTUALLY DECIDES ON
KOREAN QUESTION.

4. PRESIDENT PAK'S REMARKS, READ BY RPIKE MINISTER ON UN DAY,
WERE IN MAIN PREDICTABLE AND NOT INCONSISTENT WITH EDITORIAL
THEMES. HE REITERATED BILATERAL NATURE OF U.S. SUPPORT AND
NECESSITY OF NORTH AND SOUTH'S WORKING TOGETHER TO SOLVE OWN
PROBLEMS WHILE UNDERSCORING, AS DID PRESS, CHANGING NATURE
OF UN ITSELF.

COMMENT: PRESS COMMENT AND PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT INDICATIVE
OF ROKG CONCERN THAT HOSTILE KOREAN RESOLUTION NOW BEFORE
UNGA MAY PASS LATER THIS WEEK AND APPEARS DESIGNED TO LESSEN
PUBLIC CONCERN OVER THIS POSSIBILITY.
SNEIDER

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